

PASSENGER VEHICLES FOR RENTAL, PURCHASE OR LEASE

Background

In 2021, Governor Hochul signed into law a phase out of the sale of fossil fuel vehicles. As part of this phase out, by 2035, the State has set a goal that all passenger vehicles sold or leased shall be zero emissions. In addition, the State has committed to align with the federal government to make sure all state light-duty vehicles are electric by 2035, as part of the U.S. Climate Alliance COP26 commitment.

Goals

- To ensure that state agencies are aware of important developments relating to Electric Vehicles so that they can factor the information into procurement decisions.
- To guide agencies on how to lower the carbon footprint from transportation-related emissions by promoting low and zero emission electric vehicle purchases that will move us closer to the goals of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (Climate Act), multi-state ZEV Memorandum of Understanding, and commitments identified in the Background section, above.

Covered Products

All light-duty purchased, leased or rental vehicles, including battery electric vehicles (BEVs) and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs)

Definitions

- Battery Electric Vehicle (BEV): A vehicle that is exclusively propelled by electricity stored in an onboard battery pack. BEV batteries are charged by plugging the vehicle in to an external electric power source.
- Electric Vehicle (EV): A vehicle that is exclusively or partially propelled by electricity from an external electric power source or converted to electricity onboard using a hydrogen fuel cell.
- Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE): Equipment that provides for the safe transfer of energy from an external power source to an EV. EVSE includes EV charge cords, charge stands (residential or public), wireless charging pads, attachment plugs, vehicle connectors, and surge protection.
- Light Duty Vehicle(s): A mobile machine that is primarily used to transport passengers and cargo (e.g., cars, vans, SUVs, pickup trucks), with a GVWR less than or equal to 10,000 pounds, (i.e., Class 1 through Class 2 Vehicles, as designated by the U.S. Department of Transportation).
- Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle (PHEV): A vehicle that is partially propelled by electricity from an external electric power source or an onboard power source such as an internal combustion engine or Hydrogen fuel cell. PHEV batteries are charged by plugging the vehicle in to an external electric power source.
- Telematics: Telematics systems work by connecting a device, such as a GPS tracker or other data logging tool, to an asset. Then, the tool collects key performance data about the asset. Once collected, the device will send the information to a data center where it can be collated, interpreted, and analyzed.
- Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV): Includes battery electric vehicles, plug-in hybrid vehicles and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles.

Standard Setting and Certifying Programs

US EPA certified SmartWay: The SmartWay program certifies the 20% lowest-emitting passenger vehicles each model year, based on greenhouse gas and smog ratings.

Specification

Purchase or Lease:

Affected entities shall:

- Research whether an EV or PHEV vehicle will meet their operational needs and work with operations staff and OGS for support
- Use available tools, such as Fueleconomy.gov, Fleet Procurement Analysis Tool, or another source of information for buying guidance to identify appropriate BEV or PHEVs for their needs and assess the logistical and cost implications of purchasing or leasing one of these vehicles
- Use NYSERDA Drive Clean Rebate list (or proxy list with \geq 30-mile all-electric range) as target procurement criteria

Affected entities are encouraged to:

- Purchase vehicles that provide the highest fuel efficiency possible, including improved miles per gallon over previous purchases, when EV or PHEVs are not available
- Use telematics to track and collect data on vehicle mileage, energy/fuel usage, as well as power-level (e.g., Level 1) and duration and time of day for charging.
- Take advantage of resources to bring the cost of vehicles and charging infrastructure down, such as:
 - Electric Vehicles
 - Drive Clean Rebate (Passenger Vehicles)
 - Office of General Services ZEV Aggregate Purchase, when available
 - Charging Infrastructure
 - EV Make Ready Program
The State's investor-owned utilities (IOUs) each have programs to help defray the cost of installing charging stations. If your agency is a customer of an IOU, please reach out to learn about how they can help with installing charging stations.
 - Charging infrastructure best practice guides: NYSERDA has published a series of best practice guides for different types of charging station installations. Consult these guides for ideas on how to save money on your charging station installations and make them user-friendly: <https://www.nyserdera.ny.gov/All-Programs/ChargeNY/Charge-Electric/Best-Practices>

Rentals:

Affected entities are encouraged to rely upon the smallest, most fuel-efficient vehicle for the need including renting EVs, if available and costs are competitive.

NOTE: If unable to request a fuel-efficient vehicle during the rental process, it can be requested at vehicle pick up, based on availability.